November 23 Excellency a tolerable Idea of their Situation and I cannot but hope Red Book from the arrangements I have made there, we shall be enabled to Letter 154 compleat The General's wishes respecting them, at present they are tolerably well Supplied and guarded, and I think the Stockades now erecting will secure them

Blue Book No. 4

November 24 [Petition of British deserters Annapolis Goal to Governor Lee] Please Your Excellency to Look into the three Deserters that they Letter 50 Deem as British Prisoners do take this Oppertunity of Leting Your Excelency know the Poor Starved Condition that we ar in for the want of Wood to Cook Our Provitions We ar Obledged to Make Us of it Raw as we Draw it from the Commisry And Sterving With Cold and Weet So as we ar in A Miserable Condition. We have ben in this Condition thes three Wiks And if Your Exelency would Pleas to Do som thing for Us for Ever we should to you, Do but Consider the Miserable Condition that we ar in at Present Laying in the Cold Rain And if Your Honour Would be Plesed to Exemen in to this Affair And to Grant us a pass or to Let us out in to the town for to Work for our Living for Ever we should be obledged to you or any thing that Your Honnour should think fite Do for Gods Sake think upon us and Relive us from this Place And not Let us Lav Like thives or Murders. Do for Gods Sake think upons and for Ever we Shaild be Obledged to you.

November 25

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.]

I had the honour to receive yours of the 23^d inclosing a copy of your letter of the 5th Inst That letter reached me six days after its date, and I gave immediate directions to Mr Griffith Comy of this County to have some of the Wheat collected by him, manufactured into Merchantable Flour and brought to Town, to enable me to make the purchase of Salt you directed which he promised to have done as expeditiously as possible but to this hour I am not able to procure one Barrel of Flour. He says the Millers will not grind the Wheat without being paid in Specie, the Coopers will not supply him with Casks, without being paid in Specie, nor can he get it hauled to Town without paying for it in Specie, thus the want of Money that will pass stops it in every stage nor can I see how we can remedy it unless impowered to pay for all these matters out of the Sales of the Flour, and I am afraid there will be no great quantity of Wheat received this collection as most people find it their interest to pay their Taxes in red Money which can be readily purchased at two for one.

The day after yours of the 5th Inst came to hand I recd a letter from Colo Price (who issues Provisions at Frederick in the place of Mr Murdock who refused to Act) informing me of the very